



## State Revolving Fund Loan Programs Drinking Water, Wastewater, Nonpoint Source

### PRELIMINARY DECISION OF CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

TO ALL INTERESTED CITIZENS, ORGANIZATIONS AND GOVERNMENT AGENCIES:

**CITY OF GOSHEN  
DIGESTER IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT  
PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT ADDENDUM #1  
SRF # WW09 07 20 02**

**Date: April 7, 2011**

**Target Project Approval Date: April 8, 2011**

Pursuant to IC 4-4-11, the State Revolving Fund (SRF) Loan Program has determined that the project described here and in Goshen's Digester Improvements Project, Addendum #1 to its Preliminary Engineering Report submitted on February 14, 2011 will have no substantial negative environmental impact. Therefore, the SRF is issuing a preliminary decision of Categorical Exclusion from the requirements of substantive environmental review.

*How were environmental issues considered?*

The National Environmental Policy Act requires agencies disbursing Federal funds to include environmental factors in the decision making process. A summary of the project is attached for your review. The SRF's preliminary review has found that the proposed project does not require the preparation of either an EA or an EIS.

*Why is additional environmental review not required?*

Our environmental review has concluded that significant environmental impacts will not result from the proposed action.

*How do I submit comments?*

Comments can be submitted to:

Max Henschen, Senior Environmental Manager  
SRF Programs  
317-232-8623; mhensche at ifa.in.gov

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## CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION

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### I. PROJECT IDENTIFICATION

Project Name and Address:	City of Goshen Digester Improvements Project Preliminary Engineering Report Addendum #1 202 S. 5 <sup>th</sup> Street Goshen, IN 46528
SRF Project Number:	WW09 07 20 02
Authorized Representative:	Allan Kauffman, Mayor

### II. PROJECT LOCATION

The project will take place at the Goshen wastewater treatment plant (WWTP). See Figure 1.

### III. PROJECT NEED AND PURPOSE

The proposed Digester Improvements Project includes the addition of one spiral heat exchanger and appurtenances; demolition of cover and piping for Digester No. 2; addition of dual membrane cover with appurtenances for Digester No. 2; modifications to the digester gas piping and valving; modification of electrical, HVAC and instrumentation and control for the digesters; modifications to the gas safety equipment; and site modifications in the vicinity of the digesters.

The cover on Digester No. 2 has exceeded its useful life and no longer provides gas storage. The city will also improve the gas handling and sludge heating systems for efficiency.

The new dual membrane digester cover will allow increased gas storage; the gas can be used to operate the boilers, reducing the need for supplemental natural gas. The improvements will allow the city to operate the two anaerobic digesters within the mesophilic temperature range, instead of the higher thermophilic range; this will save energy. In addition the city will be able to operate the digesters in parallel as opposed to series, allowing more digester gas production. A new heat exchanger will allow more digester heating capacity so that both digesters can be heated when one heat exchanger is out of service for maintenance. Additional gas safety equipment will provide increased protection for WWTP workers.

The "no-action" alternative was evaluated and rejected, since the need for a new digester cover, heat exchanger and other improvements would not be addressed.

#### **IV. ESTIMATED PROJECT COST, AFFORDABILITY AND FUNDING**

The project is to be completed under a Guaranteed Savings Contract with a Guaranteed Maximum Price of \$1,868,000. Goshen will use funds from SRF Loan WW09 07 20 02 to fund this project. As of this date, an unspent balance of \$9,087,016 remains in that loan. Monthly user rates will not have to be adjusted.

#### **V. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF THE FEASIBLE ALTERNATIVES**

The project will occur in existing structures and on a site significantly disturbed by previous construction activity; there will be few negative environmental impacts.

Construction and operation of the project will not alter, demolish or remove historic properties; see figures 2 and 3. If any visual or audible impacts to historic properties occur, they will be temporary and will not alter the characteristics that qualify such properties for inclusion in or eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places. The SRF's finding pursuant to Section 106 of the Historic Preservation Act is: "no historic properties affected."

#### **VI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

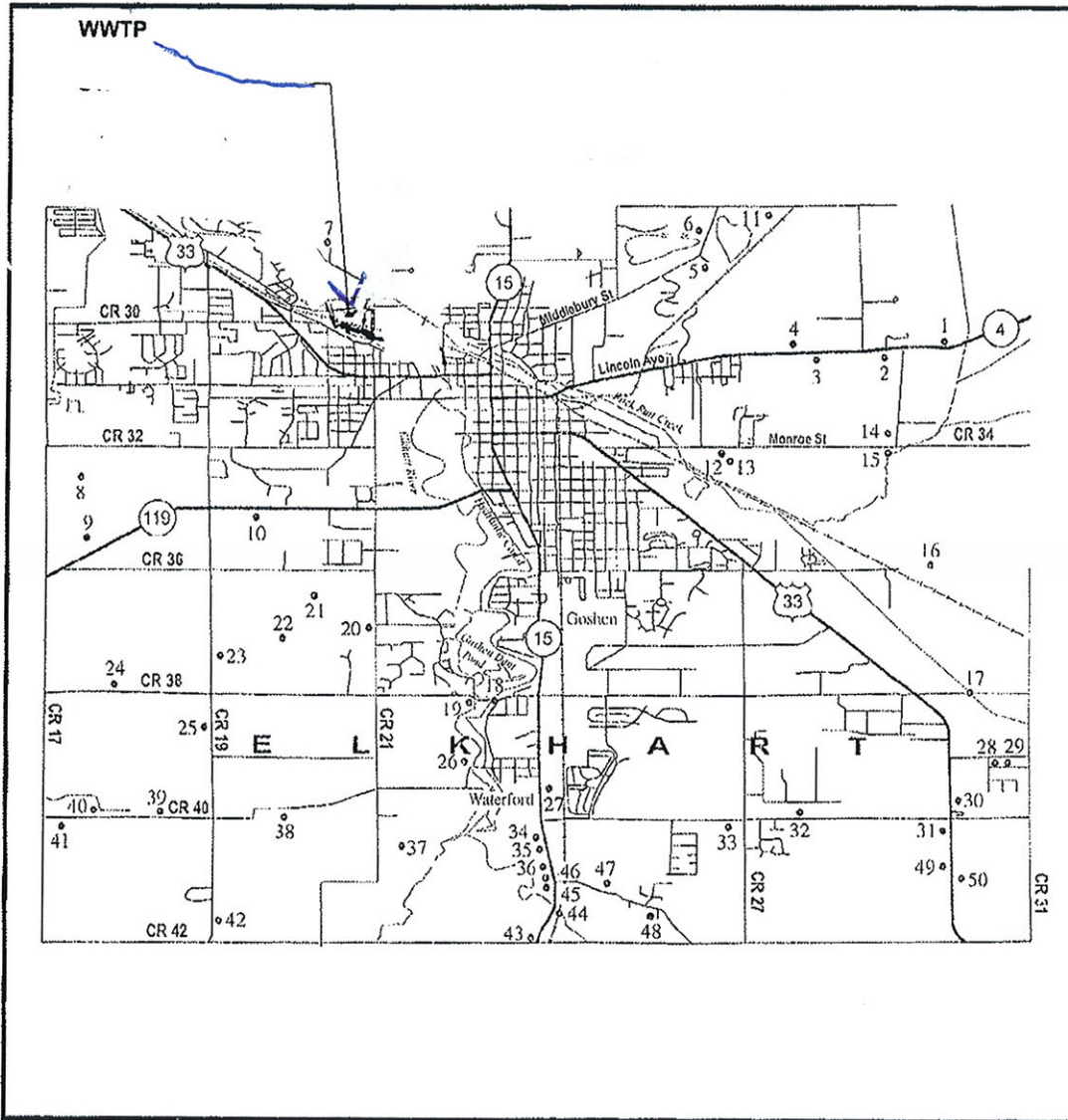
The proposed project was discussed at a publicly noticed Board of Works and Safety and Storm Water Board meeting on November 29, 2010.



**Figure 1: Digester Improvements Project Area**



# Elkhart Township (50001-050)

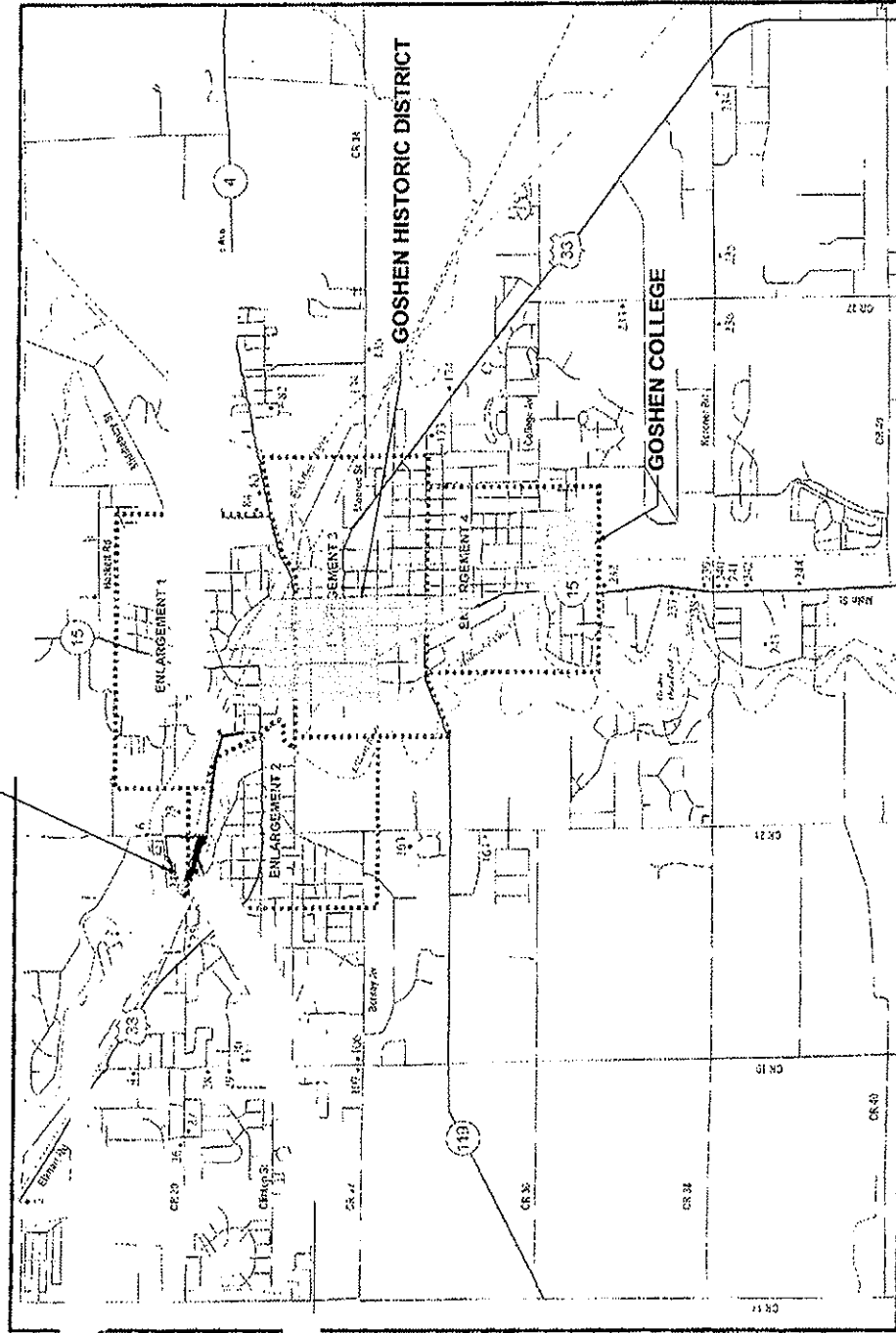


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**FIGURE 2**  
**HISTORIC SITES & STRUCTURES - ELKHART TOWNSHIP**  
 CITY OF GOSHEN  
 CSO ABATEMENT PROJECTS  
 PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORTS

**claim**



**FIGURE 3**  
**HISTORIC SITES & STRUCTURES - GOSHEN SCATTERED SITES**  
CITY OF GOSHEN  
CSO ABATEMENT PROJECTS  
PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING REPORT

MARCH, 2009

GOSHEN, INDIANA